

From: Simonovski, Thomas
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2003 2:47 PM
To: Dabbs, Paul
Subject: CA Water Plan Review Commentary

Good afternoon Mr. Dabbs,

Thank you for providing the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) with an opportunity to submit preliminary comments on the initial draft of the California Water Plan Update 2003.

I would like to take this opportunity to provide clarity in relation to the South Lahontan Hydrologic Region description found in Chapter 4. For the specific suggestions, please refer to the attached document below entitled, "CA Water Plan Draft Suggestions".

<<CA Water Plan_Draft Suggestions.doc>>

Please review and incorporate the text we are providing in the attached document to reflect a more accurate portrayal of the current situations within the South Lahontan Hydrologic Region. We anticipate submitting further commentary in the future as additional drafts of the California Water Plan Update 2003 become available.

If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact myself at

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CA WATER PLAN DRAFT SUGGESTIONS

Excerpt from Chapter 4: South Lahontan Hydrologic Region, Pages 4-82 through 4-83

“The region has already developed solutions to two major issues within the past 10 years. Overuse of the Mojave River Valley groundwater and water diversions from the Owens River/Mono Basin by the City of Los Angeles both negatively affected the region for decades. Overdraft of the Mojave River groundwater basin since the early 1950s lead to adjudication in 1996 and the appointment of the Mojave Water Agency as the basin watermaster. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is presently involved with many restoration projects for the Owens River and Mono Basin. In 1993, LADWP began final flow releases to restore Mono Lake to a water surface elevation of 6,392 feet. By 2003, Mono Lake elevation had reached 6,382, a level where LADWP can export 16,000 acre-feet per year. LADWP has developed plans to help ranchers manage grazing practices in the Crowley Lake tributary area. The Owens Gorge Rewatering Project, and the Lower Owens River Project are two premier restoration programs being implemented by LADWP to restore the river after 50 years of dewatering. Several other restoration projects are under way.”

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